



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

W.W.
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/929,405 | 08/14/2001 | Shinichiroh Ohhashi | 70904-56399 | 9137 |
| 21874 | 7590 | 07/28/2005 | EXAMINER | |
| EDWARDS & ANGELL, LLP P.O. BOX 55874 BOSTON, MA 02205 | | | BAKER, CHARLOTTE M | |
| | | ART UNIT | | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | | 2626 |

DATE MAILED: 07/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 09/929,405 | OHHASHI ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Charlotte M. Baker | 2626 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

| | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>04/26/2005</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments filed on 05/06/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
2. Regarding applicant's argument on p. 5 that the Tachikawa et al. reference is completely silent about the availability and communicability of stored or temporarily stored image data to external devices, examiner respectfully traverses. This limitation is not found in claims 1, 9, and 23. Although the reference discloses a memory for storing the scanned image data, claims 1, 9, and 23 do not recite this limitation; therefore, the argument is moot.
3. Regarding applicant's argument on p. 5 that the Tachikawa et al. reference is silent about an external requesting device requesting data for transmission on an external image receiving device and transmitting image data to an external image receiving device and that the Tachikawa et al. reference never receives actual image data, examiner respectfully traverses. Tachikawa et al. disclose in col. 13, ln. 42 "the image data is subject to extracted color processing and synthesizing by the extracted color processing selecting and synthesizing circuit 511". See also Fig. 26 and col. 17, ln. 34-42 and col. 18, ln. 27-32 of the Tachikawa et al. reference. It is clear that Tachikawa et al. disclose that in Fig. 26 image data is contained at extracted color processing selecting synthesizing circuit 511 and the image data is compressed by the data compression unit 2301 and the output is stored at memory 2302 and then a parallel/serial converter 2304 converts parallel data to serial data and the output of parallel/serial converter 2304 is sent to managing apparatus 126. Therefore, Tachikawa et al. do indeed teach that managing apparatus 126 does receive actual image data.

Art Unit: 2626

4. Regarding applicant's argument on p. 6 that the Tachikawa et al. reference does not teach a warning means that sends a warning to an external device when the external device requests to receive prohibited image data from the image transmission device, examiner respectfully traverses. See col. 16, ln. 20-22, Tachikawa et al. disclose a guidance message, which is displayed and shows prohibition of a copy and the reason for the prohibition.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tachikawa et al. (5,652,803).

Regarding claim 1: Tachikawa et al. disclose an image scanning section (scanner unit 101) for scanning a document image and generating image data (col. 8, ln. 31-33); an image transmitting section (interface 111) for transmitting the image data to an external image receiving device (managing apparatus 126) in response to a request for transmission of the image data (request for data transfer, col. 16, ln. 7-32) sent from the external device (managing apparatus 126); a specific image judging section (paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) for judging whether or not the image data generated in said image scanning section (scanner unit 101) is identical with specific image data (paper money, col. 9, ln. 18-29); and a transmission control section (interface 111) for controlling the transmission of the image data in said image

transmitting section (interface 111) based on a result of judgment by said specific image judging section (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) (col. 10, ln. 1-13).

Regarding claim 2: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 1. Tachikawa et al. further disclose an image storing section (Fig. 8, memory 510) for storing the image data generated in said image scanning section (scanner unit 101) (col. 12, ln. 60-64); wherein said image transmitting section (interface 111), in response to the request for image data transmission (request for data transfer, col. 16, ln. 7-32), transmits the image data previously stored in said image storage section (memory 510, col. 13, ln. 40-42) to an external receiving device (managing apparatus 126).

Regarding claim 3: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 1. Tachikawa et al. further disclose a control section (Fig. 7, CPU 401) which, in response to the request for image data transmission from an external device (managing apparatus 126), controls said image scanning section (scanner unit 101) to be activated and generate the image data so that the image data thus generated is transmitted from said image transmitting section (interface 111) (col. 12, ln. 30-40).

Regarding claim 4: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 1. Tachikawa et al. further disclose wherein said transmission control section (interface 111), when it is judged that the image data is identical with the specific image data (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201), prohibits or restricts (Fig. 21, prohibiting command) the transmission of the image data by said image transmitting section (interface 111).

Regarding claim 5: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 1. Tachikawa et al. further disclose a transmission request sender information storage section (NVRAM connected

Art Unit: 2626

to main CPU 401, col. 15, ln. 30-35) which, when it is judged that the image data is identical with the specific image data (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201), stores information (NVRAM connected to main CPU 401, col. 15, ln. 30-35) on an external device (managing apparatus 126) which requested the transmission of the image data.

Regarding claim 6: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 5. Tachikawa et al. further disclose call refusing means (copying operation prohibition cancel command present, col. 16, ln. 33-43) for refusing to receive a call from an external device (managing apparatus 126) which, according to the information stored in said transmission request sender information storage section (NVRAM connected to main CPU 401, col. 15, ln. 30-35), once sent a request for transmission (col. 15, ln. 24-35) of the specific image data (paper money).

Regarding claim 7: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 1. Tachikawa et al. further disclose warning means (guidance message, col. 16, ln. 18-22) for, when it is judged that the image data is identical with the specific image data (col. 16, ln. 33-43), giving a warning to an external device (managing apparatus 126) which requested the transmission of the image data (col. 16, ln. 33-43).

Regarding claim 8: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 7. Tachikawa et al. further disclose wherein said warning means (guidance message) transmits a written warning to the external device (displayed, col. 16, ln. 33-43).

Regarding claim 9: Tachikawa et al. disclose an image receiving section (Fig. 6, modem 126a) for receiving image data transmitted from an external image transmission device (interface 111); an image transmitting section (interface 111) for transmitting the image data to an external image receiving device (modem 126a) in response to a request for transmission of the image data sent

Art Unit: 2626

from the external device (managing apparatus 126); a specific image judging section for judging whether or not the image data received by said image receiving section is identical with specific image data (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201); and a transmission control section (interface 111) for controlling the transmission of the image data in said image transmitting section (interface 111) based on a result of judgment by said specific image judging section (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) (col. 10, ln. 1-13).

Regarding claim 10: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 9. Tachikawa et al. further disclose an image storage section (Fig. 6, memory 126d) for storing the image data received by said image receiving section (Fig. 6, modem 126a), wherein said image transmitting section (interface 111), in response to the request for image data transmission (request for data transfer), transmits the image data previously stored in said image storage section (memory 510) to an external receiving device (modem 126a).

Regarding claim 11: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 9. Tachikawa et al. further disclose an image transmission request section (managing apparatus 126) for sending a request for image data transmission to the external image transmission device (interface 111) in response to the request for image data transmission from the external device (managing apparatus 126) (col. 15, ln. 36-44).

Regarding claim 12: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 9. Tachikawa et al. further disclose wherein said transmission control section (interface 111), when it is judged that the image data is identical with the specific image data (paper money), prohibits or restricts the

transmission of the image data (Fig. 21, prohibiting command) by said image transmitting section (interface 111).

Regarding claim 13: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 9. Tachikawa et al. further disclose a transmission request sender information storage section (NVRAM connected to main CPU 401, col. 15, ln. 30-35) which, when it is judged that the image data is identical with the specific image data (paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201), stores information on an external device (managing apparatus 126) which requested the transmission of the image data (col. 15, ln. 24-35).

Regarding claim 14: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 13. Tachikawa et al. further disclose call refusing means (copying operation prohibition cancel command present, col. 16, ln. 33-43) for refusing to receive a call from an external device (managing apparatus 126) which, according to the information stored in said transmission request sender information storage section (NVRAM connected to main CPU 401, col. 15, ln. 30-35), once sent a request for transmission (col. 15, ln. 24-35) of the specific image data (paper money).

Regarding claim 15: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 9. Tachikawa et al. further disclose warning means (guidance message, col. 16, ln. 18-22) for, when it is judged that the image data is identical with the specific image data (col. 16, ln. 33-43), notifying an external device (managing apparatus 126) which requested the transmission of the image data of a warning (col. 16, ln. 33-43).

Regarding claim 16: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 15. Tachikawa et al. further disclose wherein said warning means (guidance message) transmits a written warning to the external device (displayed, col. 16, ln. 33-43).

Regarding claim 17: Tachikawa et al. disclose an image scanning section (scanner unit 101) for scanning an image of a document (col. 8, ln. 31-33); first storage means (memory 510) for storing image data of the document scanned by said image scanning section (scanner unit 101) (col. 12, ln. 60-64); specific document judging means for judging whether or not the document scanned by said image scanning section (scanner unit 101) is a specific document (paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) (col. 9, ln. 18-29); and warning means (guidance message) for, when the document is judged as the specific document by said specific document judging means (paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201), and a request for retrieving an image is sent from an external device (managing apparatus 126) with respect to image data of the document judged as the specific document, giving a warning to the external device (managing apparatus 126) (displayed, col. 16, ln. 33-43).

Regarding claim 18: Tachikawa et al. disclose an image scanning section (scanner unit 101) for scanning an image of a document set (col. 8, ln. 31-33); first storage means (memory 510) for storing image data of the document scanned by said image scanning section (scanner unit 101) (col. 12, ln. 60-64); specific document judging means (paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) for judging whether or not the document scanned by said image scanning section (scanner unit 101) is a specific document (col. 9, ln. 18-29); storage control means (CPU 109) for, when it is judged that the document is the specific document by said specific document judging means (paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201), clearing the image data stored (temporarily stored and then sent to detection circuit II 512) in said first storage means (memory 510) while storing information indicating that the document is judged to be the specific document in second storage means (Fig. 8, detection circuit II 512) (col. 13, ln. 40-48);

Art Unit: 2626

and warning means (guidance message) for, when an external device (managing apparatus 126) sends a request for retrieving the image data thus judged to be of the specific document and cleared from said first storage means (memory 510), giving a warning to the external device (managing apparatus 126) (displayed, col. 16, ln. 33-43).

Regarding claim 19: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 18. Tachikawa et al. further disclose wherein, when the external device (managing apparatus 126) sends the request (request for data transfer) for retrieving the image data judged to be of the specific document (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) and cleared from said first storage means (memory 510) (temporarily stored and then sent to detection circuit II 512), said storage control means (CPU 109) stores at least an identification number (col. 15, ln. 24-29) of the external device (managing apparatus 126) in said second storage means (detection circuit II 512).

Regarding claim 20: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 19. Tachikawa et al. further disclose wherein, when the external device (managing apparatus 126) sends the request (request for data transfer) for retrieving the image data judged to be of the specific document (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) and cleared from said first storage means (memory 510) (temporarily stored and then sent to detection circuit II 512), said storage control means (CPU 109) stores at least information indicating that the request for retrieving the image data was sent (col. 9, ln. 30-39), together with the identification number (col. 15, ln. 24-29) of the external device (managing apparatus 126), in said second storage means (detection circuit II 512).

Art Unit: 2626

Regarding claim 21: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 18. Tachikawa et al. further disclose an output section (display) for, when the external device (managing apparatus 126) sends the request (request for data transfer) for retrieving the image data judged to be of the specific document (paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) and cleared from said first storage means (memory 510) (temporarily stored and then sent to detection circuit II 512), outputting a report (guidance message) which at least includes an identification number of the external device (managing apparatus 126) and information indicating that the request for retrieving the image data was sent col. 16, ln. 20-24).

Regarding claim 22: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 19. Tachikawa et al. further disclose call refusing means (copying operation prohibition cancel command present, col. 16, ln. 33-43) for, after the external device (managing apparatus 126) sends the request (request for data transfer) for retrieving the image data judged to be of the specific document (paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) and cleared from said first storage means (memory 510) (temporarily stored and then sent to detection circuit II 512), refusing any call from the external device (managing apparatus 126) having the identification number (col. 15, ln. 24-29) stored in said second storage means (detection circuit II 512).

Regarding claim 23: Tachikawa et al. disclose i) inputting image data (scanner unit 101); (ii) judging whether or not the image data is specific image data (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201); (iii) receiving a request for transmission of the image data (request for data transfer, col. 16, ln. 7-32) via a communications network (interface 111); and (iv) transmitting the image data in response to the request for transmission of the image data (request for data transfer, col. 16, ln. 7-32), wherein, in the step (iv), the transmission of the image data is

Art Unit: 2626

controlled (interface 111) according to a result of judgment in the step (ii) (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) (col. 10, ln. 1-13). Furthermore, the structural elements of apparatus claim 1 perform all of the steps of method claim 23. Thus, claim 23 is rejected for the same reasons discussed in the rejection of claim 1.

Regarding claim 24: Tachikawa et al. disclose scanning an image of a document (scanner unit 101) (col. 8, ln. 31-33); storing image data of the scanned document (Fig. 8, memory 510) (col. 12, ln. 60-64); transmitting the stored image data to an external device (managing apparatus 126) (memory 510, col. 13, ln. 40-42); judging (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) whether or not the scanned document is a specific document (paper money); and giving a warning (guidance message) (displayed, col. 16, ln. 33-43) to an external device (managing apparatus 126) when the document is judged (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) to be the specific document (paper money), and the external device (managing apparatus 126) sends a request (request for data transfer, col. 16, ln. 7-32) for retrieving the image data judged (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) to be of the specific document (paper money).

Conclusion

3. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

Art Unit: 2626

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charlotte M. Baker whose telephone number is (571)272-7459. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly A. Williams can be reached on (571)272-7471. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CMB
CMB

KAW Williams
KIMBERLY WILLIAMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER